

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A steam cooking apparatus, comprising:

a heating chamber in which food is placed;

a steam generating device;

a sub-cavity provided in a ceiling part of the heating chamber;

heating means provided inside the sub-cavity;

an upper jet hole formed in a floor panel of the sub-cavity;

a side jet hole provided in a lower part of each side wall of the heating chamber, the side jet hole jetting out steam in a lateral direction of the heating chamber;

a fan;

a duct connecting between the sub-cavity and the side jet hole; and

a fan that increases strength of steam jetted out through the upper jet hole and the side jet hole;

supporting means supporting the food inside the heating chamber and spaced apart from a floor surface of the heating chamber,

wherein steam generated by the steam generating device is introduced into the sub-cavity and is heated by the heating means, and then part of the steam is jetted out through the upper jet hole toward the food while the rest of the steam is guided through the duct to the side jet hole to be jetted out through the side jet hole toward the food, and

the fan is for increasing strength with which the steam is jetted out through the upper and side jet holes, and

~~when the food is supported in a state floating above a floor surface of the heating chamber by the supporting means, the side jet hole is located below the supporting means, such that the steam from the side jet hole flows inside a space defined immediately below the supporting means in a lateral direction and, through the jet hole, the steam is blown toward under the food.~~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 1,
wherein the side jet hole is so positioned and/or directed that, ~~when the food is supported in a state floating above the floor surface of the heating chamber by the supporting means, the steam jetted out from each side meets under the food.~~

4.-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The steam cooking apparatus of claim 1,
wherein a total area of the side jet hole is larger than a total area of the upper jet hole.

9.-17. (Canceled)